(d) if so, whether any maebinery is being devised to monitor their actual conduct on the roads?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT); (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A crash programme of refresher course ^h a batch of 150 drivers per week is being conducted since September, 1988 in collaboration with Delhi Traffic Police and Petroleum Conservation Research ,Association. Special emphasis is laid on the behavioural aspects, road safety, safe driving, and fuel consumption, etc. The drivers . are given practical training on the • roads and their driving habits are checked for effecting further improvements.

' (c) Yes, Sir.

• (d) At the end of the course, the drivers are interviewed' and they are graded according to their performance. Follow up action *is* taken by deploying supervisory staff with instructors to check their driving habitg on the roads and to take remedial actions by the DTC.

Harassment of Indian visitors to Pakistan

12. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it i9 a fact that Indian visitors to Pakistan are being harassed by Customs and Immigration officials that country;

(b) if so, whethef this . has baa brought to the motteo of the Government of ladia recently; and

(a) whether Government of lndia lava takes up the Pakistan Goverment . Witt KM

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRl K NATWAR SINGH): (a) to (c) Government have seen reports to the effect that certain Indian visitors to Lahore have been. harassed by Pakistani officials. No specific complaintg in this regard have been received by' our Embassy in Islamabad, so far. This matter has bee$_n$ taken up with the Government "of Pakistan.

Financial position of Indian Airlnes

313. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM b$_e$ pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines is heading for a sharp downward trend; in its performance in the current financial year;

(b) if so, to what extent the financial position received a set-back during 1988-89; and

(c) to what extent it was less . in 1987-88 and what efforts are being i made to improve its position during 1689-90?

-

THE- MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF dVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL); (a) No, Sir. The current financial year has just started and Indian Airlines has budgeted a ,pre-tax profit _ of Rs. 9.15 crores during 1989-90 despite the higher depreciation and interest charges due to induction of Airbus aircraft. The profit before depreciation and interest in 1989-90 is expected *to* be higher than ia 1987-88 and 1989-87*.

(b) Indian Airlines earned a pre-tax profit of Rs. W. 10 crores during 1Q8&V

The following measures have been taken by the Corporation for improving the physical and. financial performance during 1989-90:—

—Leasing of two aircraft from the USSR;

—Leasing of one Boeing 737 aircraft in April, 1989 in addition to 3 Boeing 737 already taken on. lease from Mid-December 1988;

—19 Airbus A-320 aircraft on purchase order will start joining the fleet of Indian Airlines from June 1989 onwards in phases;

—Scheduling of aircraft from time to time according to traffic demand;

—Improvement in the on-time performance through capacity increase, better maintenance facilities and provision of cushion by way of stand-by aircraft;

—Unless essential for operational. exigencies, stagg'ering of capital projets and expenditure; etc.

Pricing formula for power supply

314. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways' have sought Cabinet intervention in favour of single pricing formula for power supplied to it;

(b) if so, what were the main .rea- , sons for the same";

(c) whether Union Government have accepted the same; and

(d):if so, what are the details thereof? . .

(SHRl MAHABIR PRASAD); (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

hunting cargo at Indira Gandhi - International Airport

315. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be ' pleased to state:

(a), whether it is a fact that the Central Monitoring Cornmittee of the International Airport Authority of India recently met and considered ways to clear the mounting cargo backlog at the Indira Gandhi International Airport;

(b) if so, whether this problem has caused ripples in the Ministry of Commerce; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by the Internatoinal Airport Authortiy to improve the cargo backlog?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRl SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) The Central Monitoring Cornmittee under the Chairmanship of DGCA was scheduled to meet on 12th April, 1989 but the meeting was postponed.

To overcome the difficulty regarding cargo backlog, Government of India have decided to allow all foreign airlines to operate extra flights from January to July in 1989 and 1990. During January to March, 1989, 4474 tonnes of export can go was uplifted from Delhi Airport , as. compared to 3596 tonnes during the same period in . 1988. The. International Airport Authority of India has extended, the free period of storage at its cargo 'terminal from 6, toIf" days so that ,. porlers'can' tettdir export cargo and